

CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION



PRESS RELEASE

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Commission Approves Two New Education Centers

April 9, 2003 — Sacramento — At its April 8, 2003 meeting, the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), a state panel that conducts independent, non-partisan policy analysis and provides recommendations on higher education to the Governor and Legislature, approved two new education centers — one an extension of the California State University, Bakersfield campus in Antelope Valley; the other in the City of Fresno, part of the State Center Community College District. “The Commission is committed to providing the highest level of access to California students,” said Robert L. Moore, Executive Director of the Commission. “These two centers combined will serve more than 2000 students who are pursuing a postsecondary education,” he said.

“The California State University Board of Trustees is very supportive of the new Center in Antelope Valley,” said Ralph Pesqueira, the State University’s representative to the Commission. “The Center will serve students who do not have immediate access to a comprehensive four-year campus,” he said.

Commissioner Carol Chandler of Selma voiced similar support for the new Center in Fresno. “The Central Valley is growing significantly, and any expansion of course offerings to students who otherwise would not be served is good for the State,” she said.

The Commission’s approval of these Centers allows them to compete for state capital outlay allocations to expand their facilities. Centers can become full-fledged campuses over time as their enrollments, facilities and student support services grow.

The Commission recommended approval of each site can be viewed on its website at <http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Commission/CurrentAgendas.asp>. General information about the Commission can be found at www.cpec.ca.gov.